September 9, 1988

MINERAL KING PRESERVATION SOCIETY
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Alan Epstein, Vice President
Disney Development Corporation
500 South Buena Vista
Burbank, California 91521

Dear Mr. Epstein:

As Executive Director of the Mineral King Preservation Society, I'm writing this letter in follow-up to your recent telephone conversation with our representative, Mr. Donald Duckworth. (He is also Visalia's City Manager.) The Society is a nonprofit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of California and the Federal Government. Our purpose is to collect, preserve, and maintain the history, artifacts, structures and memorabilia of Mineral King from its early discovery in 1853 to the present date.

We are affiliated with the Mineral King District Association, an organization formed to administer and promote the privately owned cabins at Mineral King.

The Disney Development Corporation appears to own approximately twenty-eight (28) acres of land in Mineral King which was to be a part of a proposed ski resort. That project became infeasible when the U.S. National Park Service (N.P.S.) assumed control of the area through an Act of Congress which was passed in 1978 and prohibited such a project.

As a result of an interpretation of that same Act of Congress (inconsisent with the Historical Preservation Act of 1980), the N.P.S. is now threatening to require the eventual demolition of all of the historical cabins in the area beginning as soon as 1990. Many of the people associated with these cabins are the families that originally settled in the San Joaquin Valley and Mineral King.

In an effort to preserve these cabins without providing for an expansion of these existing uses, we are presently engaged in putting together an application to have the Mineral King area designated in the National Historic Register. We have the support of the state Office of Historic Preservation and the Tulare

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County Historical Society in this endeavor. We may also be able to negotiate the support of historical interest within the N.P.S. Such support allows us to believe that success in realistic.

We are writing to enlist the support of Disney Development Corporation, too. The two (2) parcels of land which you own contain archaeological sites which are critical to our obtaining a National Historic Register designation.

We would appreciate it if you could support us by providing the Mineral King Preservation Society with an outright charitable donation of land; or by joining with us in our current efforts to obtain Historic Register designation.

We would like to meet with you at your earliest convenience. It is our hope that in the very near future, the entire Mineral King Valley, in all of its historic significance, will be restored. What a fitting tribute and positive image for your company and its founder, Walt Disney. Please help us!

We are enclosing copies of our brochure, our activities list for the year, and the Historical Society's bulletin in the event that such material would be of value to you.

Your consideration of our request is certainly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Ora Kay Peterson
Executive Director

cc: Mineral King District Association
Donald Duckworth

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